## APPENDIX A 2814-G Pending Claims

- 1. An isolated DNA encoding a hek-L protein capable of binding hek, wherein said DNA comprises a nucleotide sequence that is at least 80% identical to a sequence selected from the group consisting of nucleotides 83-796, 83-745, 140-796, and 140-745 of SEQ ID NO:1.
- 3. An isolated DNA encoding a hek-L protein capable of binding hek, wherein said DNA comprises a nucleotide sequence that is at least 80% identical to a sequence selected from the group consisting of nucleotides 28-630, 28-573, 94-630, and 94-573 of SEQ ID NO:3.
- 5. An isolated DNA encoding a human hek-L protein capable of binding hek, wherein said hek-L comprises an amino acid sequence that is at least 80% identical to a sequence selected from the group consisting of amino acids 1-202 and 1-219 of SEQ ID NO:2 and amino acids 1-160 and 1-179 of SEQ ID NO:4.
- 7. An isolated DNA encoding a fusion protein comprising a hek-L polypeptide that binds hek, and an Fc polypeptide, wherein said hek-L comprises an amino acid sequence that is at least 80% identical to a sequence selected from the group consisting of amino acids 1-202 of SEQ ID NO:2 and amino acids 1-160 of SEQ ID NO:4.
  - 8. An expression vector comprising a DNA according to claim 1.
  - 9. An expression vector comprising a DNA according to claim 3.
  - 10. An expression vector comprising a DNA according to claim 5.
  - 11. An expression vector comprising a DNA according to claim 7.

- 12. A process for preparing a hek-L polypeptide, comprising culturing a host cell transformed with a vector according to claim 8 under conditions promoting expression of hek-L, and recovering the hek-L polypeptide from the culture.
- 13. A process for preparing a hek-L polypeptide, comprising culturing a host cell transformed with a vector according to claim 9 under conditions promoting expression of hek-L and recovering the hek-L polypeptide from the culture.
- 14. A process for preparing hek-L polypeptide, comprising culturing a host cell transformed with a vector according to claim 10 under conditions promoting expression of hek-L, and recovering the hek-L polypeptide from the culture.
- 15. A process for preparing a fusion protein, comprising culturing a host cell transformed with a vector according to claim 11 under conditions promoting expression of said fusion protein, and recovering said fusion protein from the culture.
- 28. A method for binding hek, comprising contacting a hek polypeptide with a hek ligand (hek-L) polypeptide, wherein said hek-L polypeptide is selected from the group consisting of:
  - a) the hek-L protein of SEQ ID NO:2 in mature form;
  - b) a fragment of the hek-L protein of SEQ ID NO:2;
  - c) the hek-L protein of SEQ ID NO:4 in mature form; and
  - d) a fragment of the hek-L protein of SEQ ID NO:4; wherein said fragment binds hek.
- 29. A method according to claim 28, wherein said hek-L polypeptide is a purified soluble fragment of the hek-L protein of SEQ ID NO:2.
- 30. A method according to claim 28, wherein said hek-L polypeptide is a purified soluble fragment of the hek-L protein of SEQ ID NO:4.

- 31. A method according to claim 28, wherein said hek polypeptide, or said hek-L polypeptide, or both, is expressed on a cell.
- 32. A method according to claim 28, wherein said hek-L is in the form of an oligomer comprising at least two of said hek-L polypeptides.
- 33. A method according to claim 28, wherein said hek-L is attached to a diagnostic or therapeutic agent.
- 34. A method for binding elk, comprising contacting an elk polypeptide with a hek-L polypeptide, wherein said hek-L polypeptide is selected from the group consisting of:
  - a) the hek-L protein of SEQ ID NO:2 in mature form;
  - b) a fragment of the hek-L protein of SEQ ID NO:2;
  - c) the hek-L protein of SEQ ID NO:4 in mature form; and
  - d) a fragment of the hek-L protein of SEQ ID NO:4; wherein said fragment binds hek.
- 35. A method according to claim 34, wherein said hek-L polypeptide is a purified soluble fragment of the hek-L protein of SEQ ID NO:2.
- 36. A method according to claim 34, wherein said hek-L polypeptide is a purified soluble fragment of the hek-L protein of SEQ ID NO:4.
- 37. A method according to claim 34, wherein said elk polypeptide, or said hek-L polypeptide, or both, is expressed on a cell.
- 38. A method according to claim 34, wherein said hek-L is in the form of an oligomer comprising at least two of said hek-L polypeptides.
- 39. A method according to claim 34, wherein said hek-L is attached to a diagnostic or therapeutic agent.